distribution of improved agriculture implements and plant protection equipments, demonstration of new crops, deepening of wells, construction of community lift irrigation schemes/Anicuts/Watersheds electrification of tribal habitations, running of Ashram hostels, training for employment. A residential school is being set up at Kotda.

Special funds for imparting education to handicapped children in Himachal Pradesh

3762. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have allocated special funds to Himachal Pradesh for imparting education to the handicapped children ;

(b) whether her Ministry has forwarded or propose to forward any proposal to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for this purpose so as to implement this scheme with the coordination of both the Ministries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) an amount of Rs. 96,63,500/- was released by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to the Government of Himachal Pradesh during the year 1999-2000. In addition, H.P. State Council for Child Welfare, Shimla is running schools for disabled children with the help of the grant-in-aid from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Release of share capital contribution to Karnataka SC and ST Finance and Development Corporation

3763. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have released their share capital contribution to the Karnataka SC and ST Finance and Development Corporation ; and

(b) if so, the amount of share capital contribution already released or proposed to be released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Rs. 4501.77 lakhs has been released as Central share of share capital to Karnataka SC and ST Finance and Development Corporation upto the year 2000-2001. Release of further assistance to the Corporation is under process, as per guidelines under the Scheme.

Schemes for Rehabilitation of Liberated Scavengers in the Country

3764. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes formulated and the amount spent by Government for rehabilitation of liberated scavengers in the country during the last three years, upto 30th June, 2001; and

(b) the number of liberated scavengers benefited under the schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a)The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been operating the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of the Scavengers and their dependents (NSLRS) since March, 1992. The scheme aims at the liberation of scavengers from the inhuman occupation of scavenging and their rehabilitation in alternative and dignified occupations. The details of Central assistance released during the last three years under NSLRS is placed in Statement-I (See below).

(b)The number of scavengers for whose benefits funds were released, is placed in Statement-II.